

Remarks

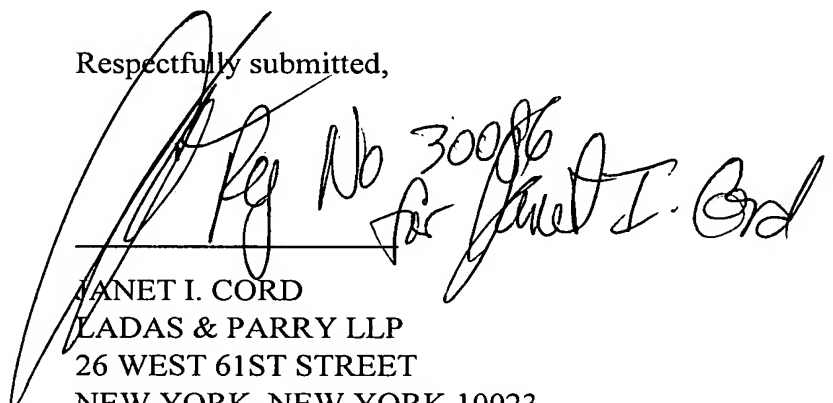
Claims 37-54 are in this application. Claims 1-36 have been cancelled.

In response to the requirement for an election between claims, applicants hereby elect with traverse to prosecute in this application the claims of Group IV drawn, among other things, to a nucleic acid molecule which encodes peroxiredoxin or to an amino acid fragment of peroxiredoxin. Applicants respectfully traverse the requirement insofar as the claimed DNA/amino acid sequences are recited in each of the claims as amended such that the claims define a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 as discussed next.

The isolation and identification of the nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising an active fragment of human peroxiredoxin (DELTA.Prx V1 hum) having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 and its use described and claimed in this application are novel and nonobvious. This is included in each of new claims 37-54. Therefore, each of the claims includes a feature that "defines a contribution over the prior art."

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that all claims presently of record be examined in this application.

Respectfully submitted,


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